



Congressman Tim Bishop

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BISHOP, ISRAEL ANNOUNCE LI PARTNERSHIP FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

Former Congressmen George Hochbrueckner and Felix Grucci Tapped as Honorary Co-Chairs

WASHINGTON, D.C.-Today Congressman Tim Bishop (D-Southampton) and Steve Israel (D-Huntington) announced the formation of the Long Island Partnership for Homeland Security and its honorary co-chairs, former members of Congress George Hochbrueckner and Felix Grucci. The Partnership will begin to position Long Island manufacturers and tech companies, universities and laboratories for a renewed presence in national security and homeland security.

"Long Island's homeland security industry does not just benefit one Congressional district or one company--it is an integrated, far-reaching enterprise, which brings all of us together to make our towns safer and to ensure jobs for residents of our communities. I am extremely pleased to join Congressman Israel, former Congressmen Grucci and Hochbrueckner, and other allies working to make sure Long Island gets its fair share of homeland security funds," Bishop said.

"For much of the 20th Century, Long Island's technology visionaries and entrepreneurs, its research infrastructure and skilled workforce have combined to create advanced science and technology to keep our nation safe and strong," Israel said. "As we've begun the 21st Century, we need them once again because of new threats to our nation and, for the first time in almost two centuries, threats to our very homeland. I am calling upon Long Island's technology community to unite and integrate as never before to help our nation defeat these threats."

"Long Island has vast Homeland Defense technology resources in its people and companies. This initiative can help to harness them in order to protect our people," added George Hochbrueckner, the only engineer to serve on the House Armed Services Committee said.

"Since our infancy as the cradle of aviation, Long Island's technology workforce has led our nation in providing the skill and innovation needed to defend our country," said Grucci. "By joining together these hundreds of companies and thousands of workers, this organization will insure that Long Island remains a leader in homeland defense and security, and has a voice that will be heard loud and clear."

The diversity of these threats requires multifaceted, agile and flexible responses. The Long Island Partnership for Homeland Security will mobilize the region's extensive engineering, technological and scientific capabilities. The Partnership will be a forum and an enabler for joint efforts and multipartner collaborations that will develop and deploy existing and new, national security technologies for threat prevention, detection, analysis, identification, neutralization and remediation. The Partnership will help identify opportunities and the potential partners who might best capture them.

Some examples of potential projects include a Homeland Security Surveillance and Early Warning

System for continuous surveillance, early threat detection and deterrence, and effective emergency response and an Urban Atmospheric Agent Observatory System to detect chemical, biological or radiological agents and predict their dispersion plume.

Industrial members of the partnership will include: BAE Systems, Computer Associates, EDO Corporation, Globecom, Invision, Northrop Grumman, Symbol and Telephonics. The Long Island Technology Network (LITN) and the alliance of the Long Island Forum for Technology (LIFT) with the Long Island Software and Technology Network (LISTnet) will be institutional members, providing access to their combined membership of more than 1,250 companies. Brookhaven National Laboratory and the State University at Stony Brook will lead the list of research institutions.

The partnership will operate through a steering committee, which will define overall strategic direction, develop a mission statement and operating principles and provide general oversight of the organization. The steering committee will also ensure regular communication within the membership and between members and external constituencies.

Attendees at the announcement included Dean Yacov Shamash of Stony Brook who formulated the structure of the initiative, Frank Otto of Edo, Phil Teel of Northrop Grumman, Tom Roslak of Symbol Technologies, Ralph James of Brookhaven National Lab, Dean Venkataswamy Raju of SUNY Farmingdale, Joe Battaglia of Telephonics and Dr. Bruce Stillman of Cold Spring Harbor Labs.

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